

ASSIGNMENT

NEWS



OCTOBER 2024

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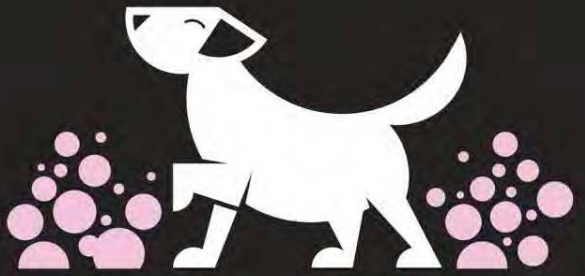
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CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS (useful numbers)

If your club or organisation is not listed here and you would like to be included, then please let me know on 01787 210354 or email bronwenstacey@btinternet.com

Allotments Secretary	Karl Debenham <i>alternative: Jenny Cutts</i>	07588 996211 01787 211371
Assington Baby and Toddler Group	Rev Tricia Box	07747 124592
Assington Books, Village Hall (see post office for times)	Michelle Bournier	07954 221773
Assington Farmshop	Maxine Gardiner	01787 211610
Assington Post Office, Village Hall	Mon 1.30-3.30,	Wed 9-12
Boxford CEVC Primary School (office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk)	Head: Emma Lea	01787 210332
Brownies, Boxford	Moiria Grant	01787 211513
Church - Treasurer	Ian Clark	01787 211133
Churchwarden	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
Community Choir	Nettie Osman	07957 394780
County Councillor (james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk)	James Finch	01473 264993
District Councillor (Assington)	Lee Parker	07970 196884
Doctors surgery – Sudbury	Hardwicke House	01787 370011
Doctors surgery – Bures	Bures	01787 227529
Floodline 24/7	SCC Flood Management	0345 606 6171
Footpath Wardens	Paul & Cynthia Hollingsworth	01787 211620
Horticultural Society	Karen Wiles	
Leavenheath Cinema	Marion	01206 263301
Member of Parliament (james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk)	James Cartlidge	020 7219 4875
Mobile Library - Vicary Estate Junction	10th August & 7th September	4.15pm - 4.35pm
Parish Council	Simon Thorogood	01787 227400
bronwenstacey@btinternet.com	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
david.wiles@live.co.uk	David Wiles	07811 108702
tony@howcroft.net	Tony Howcroft	
hwallace58@gmail.com	Helen Wallace	01787 211162
i.jordan741@btinternet.com	Ian Jordan	
andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com	Andrew Hill	01787 827112
Parish Council - Clerk (assingtonpc@yahoo.com)	Christine Hargan	01449 674727
Pub – The Shoulder of Mutton		01787 210334
Stoke by Nayland C of E Primary School (admin@sbn.suffolk.sch.uk)	Head: Mrs Kelly McGrath	01206 262418
Vicar (vicar@parishchurch.co.uk)	The Revd Daniel Whiffin	01787 228292
Village Hall – Bookings	Karen Wiles	07983 002072
Village Hall - Caretaker	Sean Mills	07547 190948
Village Hall - Charity Secretary		
Womens Institute, Boxford (annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk)	Annie Phillips	01787 211729

The Assington News is a community magazine funded primarily through adverts and donations, for which we are always most grateful.
ADVERTS. RATES pa : £20 for 1/8 size page advert, £35 for 1/4 page advert, £60 for 1/2 page advert, £120 for a full page advert.
Contact Bob Cowlin 01787 229955 Bank Account details for payments and donations: Account no: 01345159. Sort Code: 30 - 98 - 31.
 Please make cheques payable to the Assington Association.

The ASSINGTON NEWS NOW IN COLOUR ONLINE at <http://assington.onesuffolk.net/assington-news/>

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HARVEST IN ASSINGTON, AND OUR FOODBANK COLLECTION

Our Harvest Service will take place in St Edmund's Church at 10.30am on Sunday, 20th October. As always, the church is beautifully decorated with the fruits of harvest, seasonal flowers and foliage. Please do join us for this annual celebration; contributions from children (and adults too!) are accepted at the front of the church at an appointed stage in the Service.



We are so very lucky to live in Assington: we have a lovely, caring community, and beautiful countryside around us, and nature on our doorstep. Our local farmers work very hard throughout the year, battling the many foibles of the weather and everything else life throws at them.

However, some people living close to us are not so fortunate. Over the last

couple of years the cost of living has increased, and consequently the demand for food from families struggling to make ends meet has increased greatly.

As we now have a local 'Foodbank' outside the Village Hall, where food etc items may be placed, to be shared by people who are not so financially secure, it is appreciated that some of us are already donating foodstuffs at a very local level, both in Assington and at local superstores in Sudbury, on a regular basis.

In addition, every year, here in Assington, as part of the celebration of another Harvest, we collect food donations, for delivery to the Storehouse Foodbank, which is run by the Vineyard Church in Sudbury.

Currently the list of items which they need are as follows:

spam/corned beef	soup (basic flavours)
minced beef and onion	ravioli
tuna	pasta sauce
mac n cheese	custard
hot dogs	toilet rolls
meatballs	rice
chicken curry	snack bars
chilli con carne tins	washing up liquid

If you are able to donate such items, **we should be most grateful if you would bring them along to the Harvest Service in Church.** We very much hope and look forward to seeing you then.

Not only do the donations make a lovely 'modern day' equivalent to the more traditional fruit and veg box of our childhood, but they also demonstrate our celebration and giving thanks for the harvest which gives us our supply of food throughout the year; they also make such a difference to the lives of others, which of course is the true spirit of the reason we do this.

If you are not able to join us at the church service, but wish to donate items to our Assington Collection for the foodbank, **there will also be a collection box in the village Farm Shop at The Barns, until Saturday, 19th October, and a collection table at the back of the hall at the Harvest Supper on Friday 18th October**



Thank you all so much in advance for your continuing generosity.

SAD SESAW NEWS

Regular readers may still be reeling over the sad news that SESAW closed at the end of August. Rather than analyse the events preceding the sad news, we need to concentrate on the animals awaiting re-homing.

One of those is Pharaoh, a bouncy 6 year old Labradoodle.

He is an intelligent and characterful boy who loves to play and show off his tricks. He has a great repertoire of



commands, is good on walks alone or with other calm dogs. He loves being the centre of attention and has bonded with some volunteers more than others, but can be possessive with his toys until he fully trusts you. To this end he requires an experienced adult



only home, with no visiting children. His adopters will need to provide Pharaoh with consistency, strong leadership and the energy to have fun with this special boy. To show his full potential he should be the only pet in the household so he receives all the attention he needs.

If you are the right person for Pharaoh and would like to meet him, please visit 10-1pm, Thursday to Sunday or leave a CLEAR message on 01787 210888 or email info@sesaw.co.uk including your phone number.

Meet all the other dogs plus cats, rabbits and guinea pigs too, if you have a space in your world for another pet.

Many find animals are the antidote to

modern life, even pesky little dogs like me, Kenny (the Boss) Chihuahua.

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare, Stoke Road, Leavenheath, CO6 4PP.



ASSINGTON CHURCH HARVEST SUPPER

This year's Supper will be held at
🍏🍏🍏 the Village Hall on 🍏🍏🍏

Friday 18th October 2024

Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30 start

Adults £8.50 Child (under 16) £4.00

(Deadline to purchase tickets **Wednesday 16th October**
for catering purposes)

Everyone is welcome. A good opportunity to
socialise with others from the village.

Tickets available from:

Roger & Linda

Old School House, OR
The Street
01787 211021

Ian & Val

Skimbles,
The Street
01787 211133

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No partner needed

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VILLAGE NEWS

VILLAGE HALL KITCHEN GRAND OPENING AFTERNOON TEA

On Saturday 14th September an Afternoon Tea was held at the Village Hall to formally open the new kitchen.

26 people of different ages attended from the village, old residents and new, to have a traditional afternoon tea to co-inside with the official ribbon cutting.



David Wiles, Chairman of The Assington Village Charity gave thanks to the contributors of the works:

Babergh District Council grant funding for the initial grant of £10,000; Assington Parish Council for CIL funding of £2,300 to fund the new white goods including a new dishwasher; Fred Cook of Assington Autos for funding the new cooker hood of £150, and Sheridan Gibson and his team from TCI for their superb installation of the new kitchen. He also advised attendees of CIL funding for the new village hall doors of £2700.



A first class tea of sandwiches, sausage rolls, patisserie cakes and cream scones, tea, and a glass or 2 of prosecco was enjoyed by all.

A raffle was held and the winning ticket was asked to cut the ribbon to officially open the new

kitchen. This was won by Jean Evans who did the honours.

A very pleasant afternoon for people to catch up and be part of the event.

We now have a superb kitchen for our community and hirers to use.



VILLAGE GET-TOGETHERS: COFFEE AND CHAT

Dear Village, we have so many people who are new to the Village, that I thought it might be a good idea to have a regular meeting, which will help us to meet up and get to know our "Newcomers" and also a chance to catch up with each other!

So to that effect, I have booked the Village Hall from 10.00am until 11.30am on the last Tuesday of each month for a very informal "Coffee and Chat" get together.

Our first meeting was on Tuesday, 24th September, and the next meeting will be on **29th October at 10am in the Village Hall.**

All will be very welcome; we hope that you would like to join in and we look forward to seeing you all then.

From **Louisa.**

THE TED NICOLS FOOTBALL MATCH

On Saturday 10th August The Ted Nicholls Memorial Football Match was held at the village hall football pitch, and was played by 2 teams from AFC Sudbury Under 15's.



The boys and coaching staff conducted a one minute silence in Teds honour as he was a massive fan of the club over many years especially the youth academy. It was also attended by members of Teds family, players parents and villagers, a very fitting tribute to a man who loved his football.

The boys were very respectful of the occasion and sure that Ted would have been watching very proud as the club are now using the facility as their home pitch for the coming season.

Football score

AFC Sudbury first game of the season ended in a 4-1 loss to a very good side who had finished top of the league the previous year. Manager Jim Oddie said the players battled until the final whistle.

UPDATES FROM DAVID WILES

New front doors have been fitted to the village hall, and the village hall is on the list to have fully-funded car charging points in the near future.

The village hall committee would like to appeal to anyone that would like to apply for the secretary position that is at present vacant please email david.wiles@live.co.uk full explanation and training given.

VILLAGE FOODBANK

Next to the village Hall: Please donate to the village food bank, in date product please non perishable items and tins only. Cleaning material and nappies/ wipes. Thank you

If anyone has any ideas for a village event please let us know and we will try to do it.





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Drama PG – 12

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Running time 1hr 25 mins with 20 mins interval

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For **both** films arrive 7.00pm. Film starts 7.30pm

Tickets **£4.00** per Adult & **£2.50** for under 12's

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THINGS TO DO in October

.....and SAVE THE DATES:



ASSINGTON CHURCH HARVEST SUPPER

This year's Supper will be held at the
Village Hall on

Friday 18th October 2024

Doors open at 7pm for a 7:30 start
Tickets: Adults £8.50 Child (under 16) £4.00

**(Deadline to purchase tickets
Wednesday 16th October for catering purposes)**

Everyone is welcome. A good opportunity to socialise
with others from the village.

Tickets available from:

Roger & Linda or Ian & Val
Old School House, The Street Skimbles, The Street
211021 211133



Assington Baby
and Toddler
Group

Thank you
for all your support
and
for making it
such a friendly
group.

We all love
meeting together!

Twice a month on Thursdays in termtime 9.30-11.00 am
in the Village Hall at £3 per family

Here are the dates till the end of 2024
26 September, 10 & 24 October,
14 & 28 November, 12 December

Rev'd Tricia Box 07747124592

Tuesday 29th October Coffee and Chat

in the Village Hall

at 10am

an opportunity for everyone in the
village to meet up.

See you there!

Nayland with Wissington Community Council's

BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS

NOVEMBER 5TH

NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL

Limited parking in village - Please walk if you can
Disabled parking only at Village Hall CO6 4JH

Adults £6 - Children £2 - TICKETS IN ADVANCE ONLY
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★ HOT DOGS ★ SOFT DRINKS ★ MULLED WINE
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SAVE THE DATE

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Craft Fair

Sunday 13th October
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Rectory Road, SAT NAV IP7 6QU

10am - 4pm

HOT & COLD REFRESHMENTS
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Shop for Christmas, birthdays or just treat yourself

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Thursday 17 October
at 12 noon

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Tickets from:
Assington Farm Shop (cash only)
or phone
07989619364
or
07811716565

**All proceeds to go to
Assington Church Tower Project**

VILLAGE HORTICULTURAL SHOW



47th Horticultural Show Report

Despite the weather for growing plants being against us this year we still had some amazing entries for this years show. Entries were down again from last year but there were some very welcome new entrants and I hope that they enjoyed the show.

It was lovely to see everyone who came along to share the day with us.

The awards for the show are as follows:

The Shoulder of Mutton Scarecrow cup
Summer cottage shield. Most points Vegetables.
Warner floral bowl. Most points Flowers.
Heseltine cup. Most points all home grown.
Springfield Auto shield Most points Home baking.
W.I. Shield Best exhibit Home baking.
Hewitt Junior cup. Most points children
Assington Mill cup. Most points Photography.
The Gurdons Cat cup. Longest Runner bean
Proctor cup. Best Pot plant.
The Beefy decanter. Best effort made in show.
Amos and Winifred Digbetter disaster prize.
Assington Charity Assoc Millenium tray,
Best exhibit in whole show.
Cash prize. (£4.00) First time entrant with most points.
Heaviest Tomato.
John Smith Cup Best Allotment.

Judy Bourner.
Bryn Hurren.
Kimberley Howard.
Bryn Hurren.
David Wiles.
David Wiles.
Finley Lewis.
Kimberley Howard.
Andrew Warner.
Stephanie Gould.
Kimberley Howard.
Anna Clayton.

Kimberley Howard.
Bernadette Grinham.
Andrew Warner.
Claire Osbourne.



Huge thanks to Sean, David, Sue and Geoff for all your hard work and support, also to Bryn for your ongoing help, advice and support.

Some of our local businesses support the show by advertising in the show booklet, their much-appreciated support enables funding for the printing costs of the booklet, Thanks to all of you.

My thoughts are already turning to next



year's 48th annual show. Also, which plants that I am going to go overboard with. This year it was Aubergines and Dahlia. There is no rhyme or reason to my excesses, just whichever plants pop into my head and take my fancy.

If you haven't entered the show before I hope that you will give it a go next year, we would love to see you.

Karen x.



ASSINGTON CHURCH FETE



Thank you to everyone who made this year's Church Fete such a success.

A magnificent sum of **£2,899.53** was raised, and once again the whole amount has been included in the Church Tower Project fund, which we are pleased to announce now stands at **£38,515.15**

I'm ever aware that some people gave up their afternoon to look after a stall or an attraction and perhaps didn't get to see everything else that was on offer and to them I am especially grateful.

Thanks must go to Sally, her family and friends who looked after us with drinks and lovely things to eat while Liz's cake stall sold out quickly. Louisa, Karen and the Millers yet again helped recycle the bric-a-brac and books around the village. A big thank you must go to Simon and Bernadette who made and brought along lots of traditional fete attractions and yards of bunting that really added to the feel of the fete. Their 'Coconut shy', 'Tin Can Alley', 'Splat-the-Rat' and 'Corn Hole' games were great fun.

We spent a lot of time in The Shoulder, over the months leading up to the big day talking about all the attractions and it

was agreed early on that Anna's 'Welly Wanging' and the beautiful cars Simon Whitbread arranged to visit us needed to be kept as far apart as possible! There had been a few too many 'near misses' for comfort in recent years so the

cars were moved to line up in a wonderful display along the far fence next to Sarah's children's tent.

One poignant absence from this year's fete was Ted Nichols who gave so much of his time and energy over many years to this annual event but I was so pleased that his daughter Paula and her family came along and organised 'Ted's Teddy Tombola' for us.

Lot's of people 'flew' over our part of Suffolk in the amazing glider simulator, while the community first-aiders showed how we might all get involved in their work serving our communities.

One of the challenges of trying to thank everyone involved is that I am bound to forget lots of people but please know that you are thanked whether you helped make the event happen or came along to enjoy the festivities. Together we made it a special afternoon for the village with young and old coming together to have some fun and catch-up with each other.

We try to make this as much of a social event as we can and it was great to have so many new people getting involved this year and we would love for others to join us next year.

With many thanks,

Simon

Assington Fete Raffle: Winning Tickets

1st prize: 0122	£100 Cash (Sponsor: David Burr estate agents)
2 nd prize: 1876	Gliding Experience (Sponsor: Essex and Suffolk Gliding Club)
3 rd prize: 1881	Voucher (Sponsor: The Shoulder of Mutton)
4 th prize: 1021	Wine (Private sponsor)
5 th prize: 1940	Waitrose Voucher (Private sponsor)

All winners of the above and many other prizes were either present when the draw was made or contacted on the day of the fete or shortly after and all prizes were either claimed or delivered. The PCC would like to thank all businesses and individuals that sponsored prizes. These include Assington Country Kitchen, Assington Farm Shop, David Burr Estate Agents, The Essex and Suffolk Gliding Club, The Foxes Den and The Shoulder of Mutton. Thanks also to everyone who supported the raffle, which raised a total of £931 for the Tower Project at St Edmund's.

Ian Clark.



NATURE WATCH

From Nick Miller

The last week of July brought sightings of scarce butterflies and dragonflies, in Assington Thicks. These included a Purple Emperor, 4 Silver-washed Fritillaries, 3 White Admirals and 2 Purple Hairstreaks, plus a Southern Migrant Hawker.

In The Street, another Stag beetle has been added to the tally notified to the County recorder, and he's keen to hear of more sightings. This was a dead male Stag, with the classic huge antlers a full inch long, spotted by Susan Cohen outside no 18.

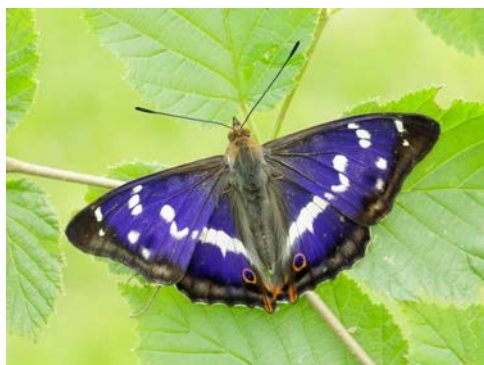
The creature was barely alive, having apparently been attacked by a magpie, and then seen dead the next day. It was previously considered Stag Beetles didn't usually occur north of Nayland, but in fact is seen regularly in parts of Leavenheath, Sudbury and yes, Assington.

The females are hard to distinguish from the more common Lesser Stag, so please remember a female stag is over 3cm long, with wing-cases brown glossy not black.

Glow worms have again been visible in places, with some people photographing "Spouses Grove by Night"!

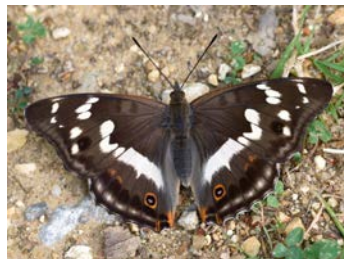
Purple Emperor

The Purple Emperor is a magnificent and elusive insect. This butterfly spends most of its time in the woodland canopy where it feeds on aphid honeydew, with the occasional close encounter when it comes down to feed on sap runs or, in the case of the male, moist ground that provide much-needed salts and minerals.



The male butterfly is one of the most beautiful of all of the butterflies found

in the British Isles. From certain angles it appears to have black wings intersected with white bands. However, when the wings are at a certain angle to the sun, the most beautiful purple sheen is displayed, a result of light being refracted from the structures of the wing scales.



The female, on the other hand, is a deep brown and does not possess the purple sheen found in the male.

The Goat Willow is the most widely

used foodplant although it breeds on Grey Willow and more rarely Crack- Willow. Eggs are laid on a wide range of tree sizes, ranging from medium sized shrubs to tall canopy trees.

Silver-washed Fritillary

This butterfly is our largest fritillary and gets its name from the beautiful streaks of silver found on the underside of the wings. The bright orange male is quite distinctive as it flies powerfully along woodland rides, pausing only briefly to feed



or investigate anything with an orange hue that could be a potential mate. The male has four distinctive black veins on its forewings that contain special "androconial" scales that are used in courtship. These veins are known as "sex brands". The female is paler than the male, has rounder wings and more-prominent spots. In England and Wales, the Silver-washed Fritillary is found in woodlands south of a line between Montgomeryshire in the west and East Kent in the east, with a few scattered colonies elsewhere.

White Admiral

The White Admiral

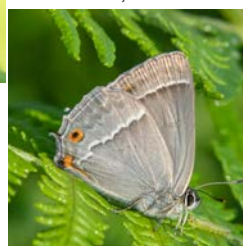


is a woodland species and a delight to behold as it literally glides along forest rides, flying from tree to forest floor and back up with only a few effortless wing beats. For this reason, some of its closest relatives on the continent are known as "gliders". When settled, the adults are unmistakable, with their black uppersides intersected by prominent white bars. The undersides of this butterfly are, however, in complete contrast to the black-and-white upper sides, and are surely one of the most beautiful of all species found in the British Isles.

The distribution of this species in the early 1900s had declined to the point that it was restricted to southern England. However, there seems to have been a reversal of fortunes, with the butterfly reaching its former distribution that extends as far north as Lincolnshire. One explanation is that global warming has allowed the species to thrive at sites that had become too cool. Another is that the cessation of coppicing, that has been detrimental to so many woodland butterflies, has benefited this species which requires Honeysuckle growing in shady woodland for the successful development of its larvae.

Purple Hairstreak

This handsome butterfly is widely distributed throughout southern areas wherever there are oak trees; even a solitary tree may support a colony. It is frequently



overlooked as adults remain largely in the canopy where the main adult food source is honeydew; they fly more commonly in the evening of a warm summer's day. However, the adults are occasionally seen basking at lower levels, on various small trees, shrubs and bracken.

Southern Migrant Hawker dragonfly

The Migrant hawk is a medium-sized hawk dragonfly that is on the wing from the end of July through to October, or even November in warm years. It is a very common species and can be found hunting in gardens, grassland and woodland some distance from its breeding ponds. Hawkers are the largest and fastest flying dragonflies; they catch their insect-prey mid-air and can hover or fly backwards.



NATURE WATCH continued

In mid-August a Kingfisher was seen at the Arger Fen water-splash. They only occur very intermittently along the Brook these days.

Swallows have been seen in good numbers in some places locally this year, also House Martins in a few places, and a small number of Swifts. How great that at Market Hill in Sudbury, 26 House Martin nests have been counted in good repair, most of them occupied.

Spotted Flycatchers have again been few locally, though a family has been seen in Arger Fen, and later possibly the same family, visiting round the area for the odd day or two. Such entrancing birds, perching on a high bare twig from where they dart out repeatedly to catch their tiny snacks.

The diminutive Ruby-tailed Wasp has put in a few late appearances, it's most often seen in May. The metallic brilliance of its blue and red colours is memorable indeed.

If you are feeding birds this winter, please be sure to wash your feeders thoroughly with some bleach in water, and try to protect the feed from rain. Disease is spreading so badly, especially among finches, via feeders; also please don't put feeders in woods or other wild places.

Fungi often make a very good showing in The Thicks and elsewhere, and

this year **the Tiger Hill Fungus Foray will be at 2pm on**

Sunday 3rd November; please car-share.

Elsewhere in Assington a **Sexton Beetle**, (looking somewhat like a large bee when first espied, owing to its size and colouring) was carried inside with some empty boxes which had been stored in the barn.



The Common Sexton Beetle is a chunky, flattened and squarish beetle, with bright black-and-orange patterning on its wing cases. There are several species of burying beetle in the UK which can be difficult to tell apart. The **Sexton Beetles** are so-called because they are 'burying beetle': these beetles are the undertakers of the animal world, burying dead and decaying animals, such as mice and small birds. Common sexton beetles can be found wherever there are corpses for them to feed on, and often fly into lights at night. Males and females pair-up at the corpse and will fight off rivals to take charge of it and bury it. The female lays her eggs on, or beside, the buried body and the resulting larvae eat the rotting corpse. Burying beetles are unusual in the beetle-world because both males and females continue to care for the larvae after they hatch - feeding them from the corpse. Their antennae

are equipped with receptors that are able to detect rotting bodies from metres, even kilometres, away.

ASSINGTON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

Bill Milner (rainfall)

and Bob Cowlin (temperatures)

HISTORY annual rainfall :

2016	599.5	2017	571
2018	559	2019	597
2020	636	2021	582.3
2022	419	2023	662

2020	mm	max	min
JAN	33.5	10°C	-5°C
FEB	56	11°C	-3°C
MAR	21	14°C	-5°C
APR	22	23°C	-1°C
MAY	5.5	27°C	-2.5°C
JUNE	50	28°C	+2°C
JULY	58	30°C	6°C
AUG	109	32°C	4°C
SEP	25.5	27°C	5°C
OCT	110	14°C	2°C
NOV	33	14°C	-4°C
DEC	102.5	10°C	-5°C

2021	mm	max	min
JAN	89	10°C	-5.5°C
FEB	34	14°C	-7°C
MAR	26	20°C	-3°C
APR	1	15°C	-5°C
MAY	78.1	25°C	-2.5°C
JUNE	55.2	30°C	+3°C
JULY	72	28°C	7°C
AUG	29	24°C	5°C
SEP	28.5	27°C	3°C
OCT	74.5	18°C	1°C
NOV	27	13°C	-3°C
DEC	68	12°C	-6°C

2022	mm	max	min
JAN	7	12°C	-6.5°C
FEB	46	13°C	-4°C
MAR	29	18°C	-2°C
APR	9.5	22°C	-6°C
MAY	37	25°C	0°C
JUNE	33.5	30°C	2°C
JULY	5	36.5°C	6°C
AUG	11.5	32°C	7°C
SEPT	25	25°C	1°C
OCT	63	18°C	0°C
NOV	107.5	14°C	-2°C
DEC	45	10°C	-9.5°C

2023	mm	max	min
JAN	41	10°C	-7.5°C
FEB	3	14°C	-7°C
MAR	78	15°C	-6.5°C
APRIL	65	18°C	-2°C
MAY	19	22°C	1°C
JUNE	15.5	30.5°C	6°C
JULY	72.5	28°C	8°C
AUG	65	29°C	4°C
SEP	41.5	30.5°C	5°C
OCT	137	23°C	-2°C
NOV	61.5	11°C	-7°C
DEC	63	11°C	-3°C

2024	mm	max	min
JAN	47	9°C	-7°C
FEB	95	9°C	-1°C
MAR	38	18°C	-4°C
APR	49	18.5°C	-3°C
MAY	83.5	25°C	3°C
JUNE	17.5	28°C	2°C
JULY	84.5	30°C	4°C
AUG	17.01	30.5°C	5°C



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RIDE AND STRIDE REPORT

From Jeff Stacey



The starting point for this year's ride was Cockfield. I parked near the station, long redundant and surprisingly not repurposed.

The church is nearby and was much larger than I expected for the size of the village.

The next stop was Felsham where I

was drawn to the font. The top section was old and well carved,



but of more interest was the base which had a much greater age and likely pagan origins. It included several characters around it including the one pictured.

I then cycled to Rattlesden, which is a very picturesque village,

complemented by a magnificent church set on high ground in the middle. It retains its rood screen and the roof beams are covered in a host of carved angels. Given



the ongoing project to provide kitchen and toilet facilities at Assington Church I also took interest in their modern additions. I found that Rattlesden Church had been fortunate in owning land in the village, the sale of which had funded both repairs and improvements.

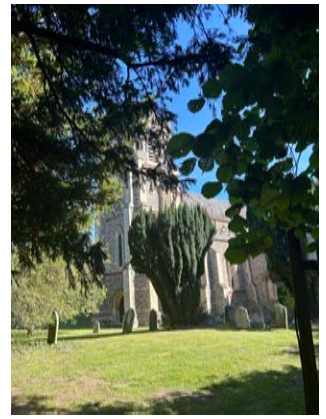
Woolpit was my

next stop. Another very attractive village with a large church that also retained its rood screen and carved angels on the roof. My exploration of the interior was limited by a well-supported craft fair that was in full swing.

I then moved into previously unexplored territory, crossing to the north of the A14 to go to Tostock Church. This was notable for its old pews with wonderfully carved figures at the ends. Many had been literally defaced by the Puritans, but others remained intact. In particular there were a variety of mythical beasts, one of my favourites being the pictured unicorn.



Also north of the A12 was Thurston Church. Approached through the shade of large trees, with the church sunlit beyond, it was a reminder of how spectacular Suffolk churches can be. Although retaining a flint and stone construction it is largely Victorian, built following a tower collapse in 1860 which also destroyed most of the rest of the church.



The plan was to cycle through the centre of Bury St Edmunds to get to my next stop, but a wrong turn took me into our local Bermuda Triangle - Morton Hall industrial estate. So many ways in, but none out. Either some of our local businesses are very large, or I passed them several times. When I eventually got back to my route I had missed the town completely.

I had a break at Nowton Park, which I expect to be busy when their display of daffodils is in bloom, but now know is packed any Saturday when the sun shines. Nowton Church is in an elevated position close to Nowton Hall and looked to be closely associated with the estate that would have served the Hall in the past. It was a very peacefully location with long views across the countryside.

Next I went through Hawstead, past the alms houses provided for the "benefit of the aged and deserving poor" by Philip Metcalf esquire in 1811. I expected to find mention of him in Hawstead Church, but it appears he spent his money on good deeds, whilst



others spent their money on their impressive monuments. There were some spectacular examples on display.



Little Welnetham was another quiet rural church, where I was fascinated by a carving of a large bird. My initial assumption was that it was a lectern similar to those seen at Assington and other churches, in the form of an eagle. Closer

inspection revealed this not to be the case. There was nowhere to rest a book and, at around two meters high you would need a step ladder to be able to provide a reading. The face of the bird was strange, similar to the pottery by the Martin Brothers (regular watchers of the Antiques Roadshow will know what I mean).



My journey was completed by visits to the two Bradfields, St George and St Claire. A rather vacant looking statue of St George made their connection clear, but not much about St Claire. I assume the link is to the follower of Francis of Assisi.



As in previous years I was struck by the wonderful churches we have in the county and the variety of historic buildings they represent. I could also see the challenges in preserving these buildings for the future, highlighting the role of the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. Thank you to all my sponsors, your contributions will be put to good use.

17 My route was a modest 35 miles, but still left me immobile for ten minutes that evening with cramp in both legs.

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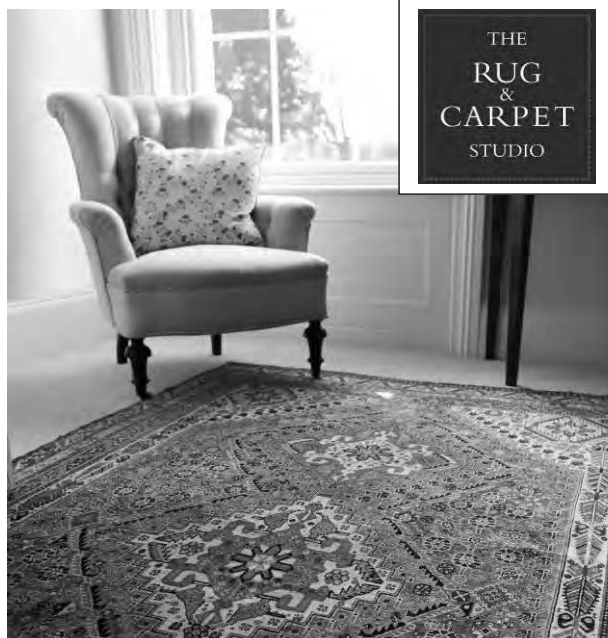
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ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Matters of Interest discussed during a meeting held at Assington Village Hall on Monday 29 July 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors Andrew Hill, Ian Jordan, Bronwen Stacey, Tony Howcroft and David Wiles

In attendance: DCllr Lee Parker, CCllr James Finch, Christine Hargan (Clerk) and two members of the public

■ Apologies for absence

Councillors Simon Thorogood and Helen Wallace. In the absence of the chairman it was agreed that Cllr Hill would chair the meeting

■ County and District Councillor reports and public forum

Suffolk County Council Report Highlights:

- Permission for a huge solar park in West Suffolk has been granted by the government
- Autism: plans to diagnose and assist both adults and children with the condition have been outlined
- Climate change remains on the council agenda
- Cold calling: residents are warned not to accept offers to undertake work by doorstep callers
- Fostering and adoption: the county is in need of additional fosterers particularly for emergency child care. Gaining fosterers employed by the council will reduce the huge bill for agency fosterers. 70% of fosterers are recruited via drop-in surgeries. Residents are encouraged to volunteer
- Speed Indicator Devices and ANPR cameras have been vandalised locally,
- Acknowledged ANPRs are run by the Police in conjunction with SCC. CCllr Finch to speak to Tim Passmore to invite police to a future meeting

Babergh District Council report: Cllr Parker reported that:

- Very little business was conducted before week commencing 23 July given the two elections (government and crime commissioner).
- Full council met last week. Main discussion points were CIFCO (the BDC and MSDC property investment company) and Listed Building Consent Orders which would offer a smoother route to add energy efficiency for owners of historic buildings. By the end of the year BDC should be the first local authority to adopt a lenient approach to energy efficiency in listed buildings, this would include insulation, solar panels, heating etc. Cllr Stacey has participated in the consultation.

•Heaven to Betsy coach "in the Layby at the A134 Junction with the A1071: the Burger Van that was previously vending has been removed. As the land belongs to the County Council, CCllr Finch will enquire whether permission has been sought to vend on a permanent basis. DCllr Parker will ask Environmental Health to investigate if/when it begins trading

•Parking charges will be voted on on Friday 2 August. DCllr Parker advised lobbying cabinet members direct if the Parish Council wishes to oppose the scheme, which is expected to raise £1.8 million a year. There are costs attributed to maintaining car parks within the towns including machines, potholes, signage etc. 1 hour free parking would reduce the profit from parking by approximately £600,000, but still deliver a £1.2m profit. The scrutiny committee made a compromise proposal regarding the scheme but this is expected to be rejected by the Cabinet on Friday. Support of the compromise proposal to allow 1 hour free parking was reiterated by APC.

Public forum

- The question raised related to Speed Watch and is reported in the item below entitled "Assington Speed Watch".

■ Planning:

❖ Planning applications:

DC/24/02419 Greens Farm House High Road Leavenheath CO6 4PGHouseholder Application - Erection of one and a half storey side extension to cartlodge and to driveway. Resolved no comment

❖ Planning issues.

Assington Autos:

BDC Planning Committee met on 24 July to discuss the planning application by Assington Autos to extend the

operational area of their site. Cllr Jordan and a representative of the residents who had objected attended to speak in support of the objections to the proposal. Councillors took the view that consent subject to the conditions proposed (plus a strengthening of the condition relating to the use of heavy machinery on a Saturday morning and a new condition on the installation of solar panels) could provide the Council with a valuable set of levers to ensure more effective regulation for the future. They stressed the need for effective enforcement, however, given the local concerns on noise in particular. The Planning Committee approved the application.

■ Review any issues raised for the Licensed Path, Footpaths and APC's Assets

❖ Assington Speed watch

The Speed Watch (CSW) team has suspended its activities, disappointed that little support has been forthcoming from the Police. Cllr Wiles received a letter from a Suffolk Police community officer who had visited the village following a complaint regarding the Speed watch team, who were not notified of his forthcoming visit. After three years' work by members of the group, who have reported over 4000 vehicles, the Police have provided little support. DCllr Parker added that Assington is not the only village in the area to have had similar concerns and to have stopped as a result.

Cllr Finch informed that the Police Commissioner had offered for Community Police Officers to attend Parish Council meetings on request. Clerk to formally request a visit by the CPO at one of the two remaining meetings this year via Cllr Finch, with cc to DCllr Parker.

Cllr Stacey suggested there is a need to continue to do something to support the speed limit through the village, such as signs on entry to Assington warning that the village is a speed watch area or alternatively investment in a speed reminder system. Cllr Howcroft highlighted the demonstrable success in resolving the problem of excessive speed following the reduction of the speed limit, and questioned the need for further investment or enforcement. The low level of interest from parishioners regarding joining the CSW team could reflect that the level of concern in the village regarding speeding has now reduced.

Cllr Hill therefore suggested a speed survey to determine the current extent of the problem (a wire counter collecting vehicle speeds), and to consider any police response at the September meeting. Clerk to enquire about survey via CCllr Finch and to raise concerns regarding the lack of support for CSW to CCllr Finch.

Thanks were extended to the Speed Watch volunteers for all their work and the many volunteer hours contributed to date. The topic will be revisited at a later meeting.

- To consider a donation toward the Sudbury CAB. It was confirmed that CAB benefit Assington residents directly and that any donation would be in line with APC policy on donations.

Resolved to donate £100

■ Questions to the Chair

- ❖ 20mph speed limit stickers have been delivered to parishioners by Cllrs Stacey and Jordan. Thanks were recorded
- ❖ Cllr Howcroft: noted that the project to extent the Stour Valley National Landscape to Sudbury was rejected as insufficiently large, and that a seat has always been available for Suffolk's Parish Councils on the AONB board. This has now been taken up by a neighbouring Parish Council, and consideration will be given to a larger expansion covering the upper Stour, Brett & Box valleys.
- ❖ Cllr Wiles reported that new doors will be delivered and fitted to the Village Hall in the week of 19 August.
- ❖ The Sudbury AFC Under-15 football team will use the playing field and changing facilities for the coming season, and a memorial to Ted Nichols would be played on the field. APC's condolences to be sent to the Nichols family, recognising the substantial contribution made by Ted to the village.

■ **Date of the next meeting:** Monday 30th September to be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Apologies from Cllr Jordan were noted for the next meeting.

■ The meeting was closed at 20.53


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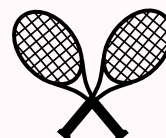
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PARISH CHURCH NEWS



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Letter from the Rev Daniel Whiffin, Vicar of Bures with Assington and Little Cornard

Dear friends

You might say that harvest is the time when the quality of soil is revealed. Of course, weather conditions have a lot to do with it. But all things being equal, you would expect a field with good soil to show itself with a high yield of good crop. Whereas bad soil would be revealed by a small yield.

Jesus plays on this idea in his famous 'Parable of the Sower/ Soils' which you can find in three of the Gospels: Matthew 13, Mark 4 and Luke 8. Here though, he is asking the question of how good we are at listening. Are we good soil when receiving the seed of his teaching? Just as the quality of a field is shown at harvest time, the quality of our listening will be shown up, one day.

According to Jesus, some people are more like concrete than soil. His teaching just bounces off like a seed bounces along a path with nowhere to settle and take root. Other people are like a thin layer of topsoil over rock. They only listen to Jesus long enough to get a feeling that he's a good guy. But when they start to sense what being his disciple really means, they quickly forget even that small amount of what he said. I think the third 'soil type' is rather pertinent to our age. These people listen to all sorts of competing voices—the gods of our world with deceitful promises—wealth, success, homeownership, healthcare as the great saviour, and the like. These voices are like weeds in your vegetable bed, stealing away the goodness of the soil. Only the fourth type of person really listens to Jesus and knows the joy of having a life he has transformed and made productive.

In Jesus' parable the seed is sown on all sorts of soil, indiscriminately. Likewise, all of us have the opportunity to hear Jesus' "words of eternal life". When the harvest time comes, will we be revealed as people who have really listened to him?

May you have a happy harvest time!

Daniel



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6 OCTOBER @ 10.30am HOLY COMMUNION

Elsewhere 13 OCTOBER Bures @ 10.30am HC
Lt Cornard @ 10.30am MW

20 OCTOBER @ 10.30am HARVEST SERVICE

Elsewhere 27 OCTOBER Bures @ 10.30am MW
Lt Cornard @ 10.30am HC

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Reader: Dr John Symons 211534

Churchwarden: Bronwen Stacey 210354

Organists: Bronwen Stacey 210354

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Treasurer: Ian Clark 211133



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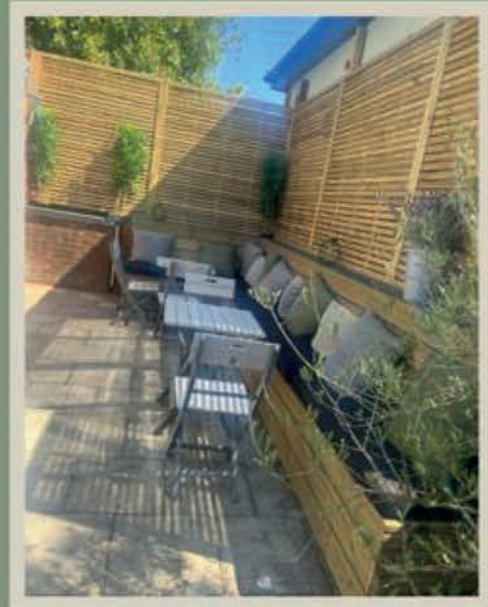
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